

Mock Election 2007

The mock election offers an excellent opportunity for schools to publicize their successful efforts in community newspapers or other publications. Both individual students and the school itself will benefit from this recognition, paving the way for future collaborative initiatives with the community.

The following is a sample press release for the mock election. Please feel free to modify it to suit your needs. You may also want to invite local newspapers in advance of any special events.

Students Cast Ballots in Mock Election

Students at [school/class] took part in the democratic process on Thursday, November 1, as they cast their ballots in the University of Virginia's Center for Politics Youth Leadership Initiative (YLI) Mock Election. Over [number will be provided later] Kentucky middle and high school students participated in the youth voter project, coordinated by the Office of the Secretary of State.

The student ballot included Executive Branch offices including: Governor/Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Commissioner of Agriculture, State Auditor, Secretary of State, and State Treasurer. [Explanation of any mock election activities specific to your school]

[Quotes from students, principal, elected official, school coordinator, etc.]

The YLI Mock Election is just one of many programs that the Civic Literacy Initiative of Kentucky (CLIK) is promoting in the Commonwealth. The CLIK, directed by the Kentucky Workgroup on Civic Literacy, is striving to develop a strategy for enhancing long-term civic engagement and literacy. In recent years, Kentucky has been recognized as a national leader in this effort.

"Mock elections foster a voter habit that young people can carry well into their adult lives," said Secretary of State Trey Grayson who chairs the Kentucky Workgroup on Civic Literacy. "Encouraging active civic engagement among our young people is ultimately beneficial for the entire Commonwealth."

Each year, YLI conducts the nation's largest student-only on-line mock election, using electronic and paper ballots tailored toward students' individual districts.

To view state and local results of the YLI Mock Election, visit <http://sos.ky.gov/mockelection>.